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Message Text

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21
ORIGIN PM-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-02 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-10 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-14 USIA-04 OMB-01 AID-05

MC-02 ACDA-10 AF-04 ARA-10 EA-07 EUR-10 NEA-06 /102 R

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DOD/JCS:CAPT MILLER
NAVY/USMC:MR. MILLER
AIR FORCE: LTC BARKER
ARMY:MR. JACKSON (INFORMED)
---------- 072772
R 092235Z OCT 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL DIPLOMATIC POSTS
SECDEF WASHDC (ISA)
USCINCEUR VAI GER
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS CZ

S E C R E T STATE 223014

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:MASS, XX

SUBJECT:POLICY GUIDANCE GOVERNING THE OFFER/SALE OF THE
TOW MISSILE SYSTEM

JOINT STATE/DEFENSE MESSAGE

1. RECENT EVENTS HAVE GENERATED EXTREMELY HEAVY DEMANDS
WORLDWIDE AGAINST ARMY INVENTORIES TO PROVIDE THE TOW MISS-
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ILE SYSTEM. DRAWDOWNS AND DIVERSIONS AGAINST ARMY ASSETS
AS A RESULT OF THESE DEMANDS HAVE DEGRADED READINESS TO THE

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POINT WHERE ARMY ELEMENTS NOW HAVE ONLY 17 PERCENT OF THEIR AUTHORIZED ACQUISITION OBJECTIVE OF THE TOW. ALTHOUGH CURRENT CONTRACTUAL ACTIONS SHOULD EVENTUALLY RELIEVE THE PROBLEMS OF DEFICIT IN OUR OWN MILITARY INVENTORY, THE CURRENT TOW SHORTAGE REMAINS SERIOUS.

2. THE FOLLOWING GUIDANCE SHALL APPLY TO FUTURE TOW SALES:

A. IN RESPONSE TO INQUIRIES ABOUT THE TOW FROM A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT ELIGIBLE FOR FMS YOU SHOULD ADVISE THAT IF REQUEST FOR SALE OF TOW IS MADE BY THAT GOVERNMENT AND IS APPROVED BY USG, THE NORMAL LEAD TIME FOR DELIVERY IS NOW ESTIMATED TO BE FROM 26 TO 30 MONTHS.

B. EACH REQUEST FOR TOW WILL BE STUDIED ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS IN ACCORDANCE WITH NORMAL CRITERIA APPLICABLE TO ARMY'S SALES AND, IF SALE IS APPROVED, ONLY IN AN EXCEPTIONAL CASE WOULD FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO EARLY DELIVERY UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE DEFENSE INVENTORY REACHES THE DESIRED LEVEL.

3. THE TOW SYSTEM IS A SOPHISTICATED WEAPON WITHIN THE MEANING OF SECTION 4, FOREIGN MILITARY SALES ACT (22 USC 2754) WHICH STATES: QUOTE THAT NONE OF THE FUNDS CONTAINED IN THIS AUTHORIZATION SHALL BE USED TO GUARANTEE, OR EXTEND CREDIT, OR PARTICIPATE IN AN EXTENSION OF CREDIT IN CONNECTION WITH ANY SALE OF SOPHISTICATED WEAPONS SYSTEMS, SUCH AS MISSILE SYSTEMS AND JET AIRCRAFT FOR MILITARY PURPOSES, TO ANY UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRY OTHER THAN GREECE, TURKEY, IRAN, ISRAEL, THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA, THE PHILIPPINES, AND KOREA UNLESS THE PRESIDENT DETERMINES THAT SUCH FINANCING IS IMPORTANT TO THE NATIONAL SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES AND REPORTS WITHIN THIRTY DAYS EACH SUCH DETERMINATION TO THE CONGRESS. END QUOTE. INGERSOLL

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